LACHNOPUS SCHOENHERR, 1840 (INSECTA, COLEOPTERA): PROPOSED CONSERVATION BY THE SUPPRESSION OF *MENOETIUS* DEJEAN, 1821 AND *PTILOPUS* SCHOENHERR, 1823

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In this application it is proposed that the generally used generic name *Lachnopus* Schoenherr, 1840, in the family CURCULIONIDAE, be preserved by the suppression of its nearly unused senior synonyms *Menoetius* Dejean *ex* Schoenherr MS, 1821, and *Ptilopus* Schoenherr, 1823.

2. The genus *Menoetius* was established by Dejean *ex* Schoenherr MS, 1821, p. 94, by inclusion of the following five available names, all originally described in the genus *Curculio*: *valgus* Fabricius, 1775, p. 150, now in *Lachnopus* Schoenherr, 1840, p. 380; *striga* Fabricius, 1798, p. 173 and *punctum* Fabricius, 1798, p. 172, both now in *Cratopus* Schoenherr, 1826, p. 120; *lateralis* Fabricius, 1792, p. 454 and *rutilans* Olivier, 1807, p. 333, both now in *Astycus* Schoenherr, 1826, p. 129. In subsequent years *Menoetius* Dejean was treated as a junior synonym of *Ptilopus* Schoenherr, 1823, column 1140 by Schoenherr, 1823, column 1146; 1826, p. 118; 1834, p. 28 and Dejean, 1834, p. 253.

3. Schoenherr, 1823, column 1140, established the genus *Ptilopus* through the inclusion of the available name, *Curculio aurifer* Drury, 1773, p. 68, attributed to Fabricius and Olivier, and designated it as type species. The first description for this genus is Schoenherr, 1826, p. 118. In Schoenherr, 1834, pp. 30–43, many new species were described in *Ptilopus*.

4. Schoenherr, 1840, p. 380, established the name *Lachnopus* as a replacement name for *Ptilopus* Schoenherr which, in error, he believed to be a junior homonym of the diperan *Psilopus* Meigen, 1824, plate 35, misspelled *Ptilopus* by Schoenherr in his explanatory footnote. Since *Ptilopus* Schoenherr is properly dated 1823, his name would take priority, regardless of the spelling of *Psilopus* Meigen.

5. *Menoetius* and *Ptilopus* are subjective synonyms, and *Ptilopus* and *Lachnopus* are objective synonyms, and through application of the Principle of Priority, first *Menoetius* and then *Ptilopus* should take precedence over *Lachnopus*. However, except in the checklist by O'Brien & Wibmer, 1982, in which they designated *Curculio valgus* Fabricius as type species of *Menoetius* Dejean, 1821, and in Silfverberg, 1984, *Menoetius* Dejean has not been used as a valid name for more than a century and a half, and *Ptilopus* Schoenherr has not been used so for nearly the same period, while *Lachnopus* has been in almost universal use, *e.g.* Schoenherr, 1845; Perroud, 1853; Lacordaire, 1863; Gemminger & Harold, 1871; LeConte & Horn, 1876; Pierce, 1913; Blatchley & Leng, 1916; Leng, 1920; Wolcott, 1924, 1936, 1951; Marshall, 1922, 1926, 1933, 1934; Hustache, 1932; Dalla Torre *et al.* 1936; Blackwelder, 1947 and Kissinger, 1964.

Replacing *Lachnopus* with *Menoetius* or *Ptilopus* would not be in the best interests of stability in nomenclature.

6. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is therefore requested:

(1) to use its plenary powers to suppress the generic names *Menoetius* Dejean, 1821, and *Ptilopus* Schoenherr, 1823, for purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy;

(2) to place the generic name *Lachnopus* Schoenherr, 1840 (gender: masculine), type species by original designation *Curculio aurifer* Drury, 1773, on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology;

(3) to place the specific name *aurifer* Drury, 1773, as published in the binomen *Curculio aurifer* (specific name of the type species of *Lachnopus* Schoenherr, 1840) on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology;

(4) to place the generic names *Menoetius* Dejean, 1821, and *Ptilopus* Schoenherr, 1823, as suppressed under the plenary powers in (1) above, on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology.

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